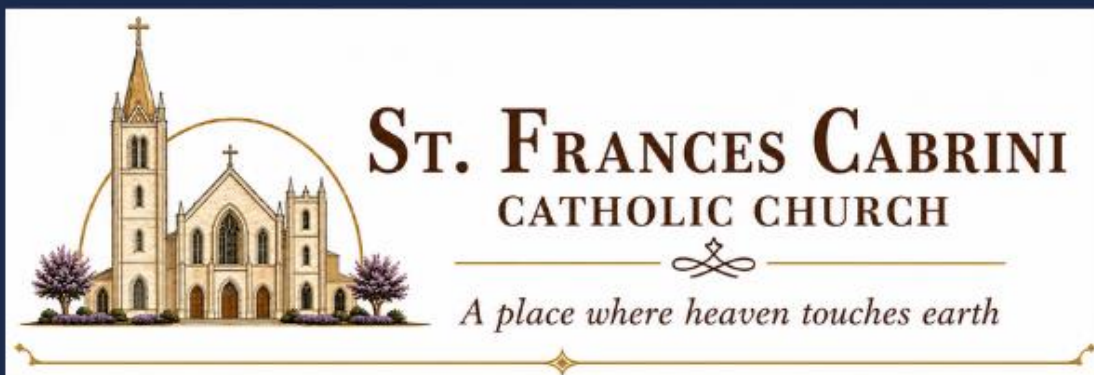




Order of Christian Initiation of Children (OCIC)

Parent Informational Handout

Welcome

We are honored that your family is considering the Order of Christian Initiation of Children (OCIC).

OCIC is a faith formation process designed for children (typically ages 7–17) who have reached the age of reason and:

- have never been baptized,
- were baptized in another Christian tradition,
- were baptized Catholic but have not received First Reconciliation or First Holy Communion,
- or are seeking to become fully initiated into the Catholic Church.

Each child enters the process with a unique faith journey. Completing the attached registration materials and sacramental history, our parish staff will determine the most appropriate formation path for your child.

The Goal of OCIC

Through prayer, study, participation at Mass, and community life, children are gradually prepared to receive the Sacraments and become active disciples of Jesus Christ.

Depending upon each child's circumstances, this may include preparation for:

- Baptism
- Confirmation
- First Reconciliation
- First Holy Communion
- Reception into Full Communion with the Catholic Church

Not every child will receive the same sacraments or receive them at the same time.

Parent Responsibilities

The Faith Formation team at St. Frances Cabrini is here to guide, teach, and support you and your child(ren) as members of your family prepare for the sacraments. It is essential to keep in mind that the Church has always considered parents to be the primary educators in the work of forming their children's faith. The role of parents in their children's spiritual formation is therefore of critical importance. **The work of the parish's Faith Formation team is to assist you, not replace you.**

In addition to a calendar of relevant dates for meetings, we will be providing you with materials to help you in teaching, praying with, and participating in Christian acts of charity with your child(ren). To begin this process, we ask you to read a brief section of the Catechism of the Catholic Church: #'s 2196 – 2233.

The spiritual preparation that our parish asks of you involves, but is not limited to, the following list, which we request that you consider and complete. As we pledge to be faithful to our commitment to assist you in teaching and forming your child(ren) in the Catholic faith, we ask you to pledge to be faithful to each of the following...

- To pray with your child(ren) each day, and model prayer to them
- To read Scripture / Bible stories with your child(ren)
- To read the stories of the lives of saints with your child(ren)
- To teach your child(ren) basic Catholic prayers
- To teach your child(ren) the Ten Commandments and other fundamentals of the life of faith
- To teach your child(ren) what it means to live a virtuous life, what sin and temptation are, and how to avoid sin
- To teach your child(ren) about the spiritual dangers and excesses of modern culture
- To seek out and introduce your child(ren) to age-appropriate resources that foster the life of faith
- To model the Christian life of seeking holiness, depending on grace, offering God genuine repentance for sins, practicing active charity, avoiding actions that give scandal, and striving to live justly before God and in society
- To participate in Mass on Sundays (or Saturday evenings) with your child(ren)
- To participate in Mass on Holy Days of Obligation with your child(ren)
- To bring your child(ren) to First Communion gatherings faithfully
- To attend meetings with your child(ren)
- To attend practices /rehearsals for sacraments (when and if needed)

Attendance

Faith formation is a process that requires regular participation. Parents are expected to attend each session with their child(ren).

****Important** Frequent absences may delay the reception of the Sacraments until adequate preparation has been completed.

Important Documents

Please provide copies of any applicable sacramental records:

- Birth Certificate
- Baptismal Certificate
- Adoption paperwork (if applicable)
- Legal guardianship documents (if applicable)

If your child has never been baptized, no baptismal certificate is required.

OCIC Registration & Sacramental Assessment

Child's Full Legal Name: _____

Preferred Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Current Grade: _____

School Attending: _____

Male / Female (circle one)

Parent / Guardian Information

Parent/Guardian #1

Name: _____

Relationship to Child: _____

Religion: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

Parent/Guardian #2

Name: _____

Relationship to Child: _____

Religion: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Email: _____

Address (if different): _____

Emergency Contact

Name: _____

Relationship: _____

Phone: _____

Sacramental History

1. Has your child ever been baptized?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes:

Church Name: _____

City/State: _____

Date of Baptism: _____

Religion/Denomination: _____

Please attach a copy of the baptismal certificate.

2. Was your child baptized in the Catholic Church?

☐ Yes ☐ No

3. Has your child ever received First Reconciliation?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes:

Church: _____

Date: _____

4. Has your child received First Holy Communion?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes:

Church: _____

Date: _____

5. Has your child been Confirmed?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes:

Church: _____

Date: _____

Sacramental History (continued)

6. Is your child currently attending another church?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes:

Church Name: _____

Denomination: _____

7. Has your child previously attended religious education classes?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes:

Where? _____

For how many years? _____

Family Faith Information

Does your family regularly attend Sunday Mass?

- ☐ Every week
- ☐ Most weeks
- ☐ Occasionally
- ☐ Rarely

Preferred parish: _____

Is at least one parent Catholic?

☐ Mother ☐ Father ☐ Both ☐ Neither

Child's Faith Journey

Why are you seeking OCIC for your child?

Has your child expressed a desire to become Catholic or receive the Sacraments?

Medical / Learning Information

Does your child have allergies?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes:

Does your child have any medical conditions?

Does your child have any learning differences, special needs, IEP, or accommodations we should know about?

Permissions

May we photograph your child during parish activities?

☐ Yes ☐ No

May your child's photograph appear in parish publications or social media?

☐ Yes ☐ No

OCIC 2026-27 Parents' Active Participation Form

I commit to these aspects of spirituality preparing my child(ren) for the sacraments and the Christian life. Please print and sign your name(s) below:

Printed name: _____ Signature: _____

Printed name: _____ Signature: _____

Date: _____

Child(ren's) Name(s): _____

Parent Agreement

I certify that the information provided in the *OCIC Registration and Sacramental Assessment* is accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand that sacramental preparation is a process of formation and that the timing of the reception of the Sacraments will be determined by the pastor and Director of Religious Education according to the norms of the Catholic Church and the readiness of the child.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____